



Jane Goldberg is a tap dancer and historian who studies the “foot cultures of the world.” The magical percussion of her feet excited audiences in several Indian cities recently. Here she tells the author about the origins and heroes of this American dance form.

TAP DANCING

By MEENAKSHI SHEDDE

In tap dancing, ‘stealing steps’ is considered an art. You don’t do someone else’s step exactly, but you make it your own. Jane Goldberg writes tap dancer and historian Jane Goldberg in her forthcoming memoir *Shoot Me While I’m Happy*. It gives you a sense of the cool unpretentiousness of the dance and its street-smart, play-by-your-own-rules attitude—which only serves to enhance its aura of unabashed happiness. Goldberg, who is associate professor of dance at New York University, recently